

## AGENDA



Thursday, December 6, 2007

**Purchasing Office  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 40**

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**Subject:** Authorize award and execution of a contract with AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC., Wilmington, DE, for the purchase of a gas chromatography mass spectroscopy system (GC/MS) for the Austin Water Utility in an amount not to exceed \$91,298.70.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

**Fiscal Note:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**For More Information:** Steve Aden, Supervising Sr. Buyer, 974-2021.

**Purchasing Language:** Sole bid received.

**MBE/WBE:** This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

**Boards and Commission Action:** Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

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This contract is for the purchase of a Gas Chromatography, Mass Spectroscopy System (GC/MS), for the Laboratory Services Division's Environmental Laboratory that analyzes drinking water, wastewater, and industrial wastes for volatile organic chemical constituents.

This testing is required for monitoring the various water and wastewater treatment processes for compliance with Federal, State and local regulatory mandates. These regulatory mandates, set forth under the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act, require the use of specific analytical methodologies for performing the analyses for volatile organic chemical constituents.

This new purchase of the GC/MS will enable the laboratory to perform these analyses as prescribed. Additionally, purchasing the GC/MS will enable the Utility to have access to laboratory results quickly when responding to urgent situations such as chemical spills which can potentially and adversely impact area waterways.

Tests were being sent out in the past to other contractors which was costly and time consuming. The cost of having a private laboratory provide the estimated 625 analytical results/year produced for volatile organic chemical constituents, is approximately \$98,000. This cost would be for the routine turnaround time rate of three weeks for the laboratory results. Additional costs would be incurred for expedited turnaround times of less than three weeks for urgent requests.

MBE/WBE solicited: 0/1

MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

IFB NO. STA0089  
PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Sole bid. Other potential bidders were contacted and stated that they could not currently provide a product that met specifications.
- b. Eleven notices were sent, including one WBE. There are no known MBE firms available for this commodity. One bid was received. One "No Bid" response was received. The firm submitting the no bid response stated they did not sell this type of equipment.
- c. This is the first purchase of this type; therefore, there is no pricing history available.

#### APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Sole bid received.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Austin Water Utility's recommendation.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and on the Internet.